

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER BOARD
JUNE 5, 2018**

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE STATE WATER BOARD TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TO EXECUTE AND AMEND, AS NECESSARY, A CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO FUND ONE SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD STAFF POSITION IN THE WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN PROTECTION UNIT.

DISCUSSION

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region's (San Diego Water Board) Wetlands and Riparian Protection Unit is responsible for processing applications and developing water quality certifications and/or waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for discharges of dredge or fill material into waters of the State in the San Diego Region. The San Diego Water Board typically receives 5 to 10 applications a year from the City of San Diego to discharge dredge or fill material from water, wastewater, and storm water infrastructure projects. Some of the City of San Diego's projects are emergency projects to protect public health and safety and require expedited review by San Diego Water Board staff.

Due to resource constraints in the San Diego Water Board's Wetlands and Riparian Protection Unit, the San Diego Water Board has not been able to process all of the City of San Diego's dredge and fill applications in a timely manner. The City of San Diego is proposing to fund one Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) position in the San Diego Water Board's Wetlands and Riparian Protection Unit, and supervisory costs, for a period of 5 years in an amount not to exceed \$1,389,000 (Proposed Contract). This staff person would work exclusively under the direction of the San Diego Water Board to perform environmental review, permitting, and compliance assurance work for City projects such as: the development of a General Certification for maintenance dredging activities, early consultation on environmental review documents, preparation of applicable permits, and post-construction follow-up.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) administers contracts on behalf of the regional water boards. State Water Resources Control Board [Resolution No. 2015-0022](#) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Chief Deputy Director, or the Deputy Director of the Division of Administrative Services (DAS) to execute routine service contracts, interagency agreements, and amendments of no more than \$750,000 in value or three years in duration. The Proposed Contract exceeds these thresholds and must be separately authorized by the State Water Board. Tentative Resolution No. 2018-XXXX, delegates authority to the Executive Director, Chief Deputy Director, or Deputy Director of DAS to execute and amend the Proposed Contract for and on behalf of the San Diego Water Board.

POLICY ISSUE

None.

FISCAL IMPACT

None, the additional staff position, and supervision, will be supported by cost recovery from the City of San Diego.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

Yes, the San Diego Water Board will receive one additional personnel year (PY) for the Wetlands and Riparian Protection Unit for a period of five years beginning in fiscal year 2018-19.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board:

1. Approve the Resolution No. 2018-XXXX.
2. Authorize the Executive Director, Chief Deputy Director, or Deputy Director of the Division of Administrative Services to execute and amend, for and on behalf of the San Diego Water Board, the Proposed Contract with the City of San Diego.

The Proposed Contract is being developed in conformance with the San Diego Water Board's Practical Vision document entitled Healthy Waters, Healthy People. Wetland and riparian systems in the San Diego Region and throughout California are threatened by impacts from increasing population growth, land development, sea level rise, and climate change. Augmenting existing San Diego Water Board staff resources in the Wetlands and Riparian Protection Unit will directly assist in the San Diego Water Board reaching the goals of the Recovery of Stream, Wetlands and Riparian Systems chapter of the Practical Vision.